

**MEMORANDUM**

Date: July 14, 2005

To: Charles Grigalauski, Regional Manager, Des Plaines BOL/FOS

From: Mark Retzlaff, BOL/FOS

Re: 0316645050 – Cook
LC Mertz
ILD05066918
FOS

On July 14, 2005, waste screening was performed by Tina Moritz and I, at a parking lot located across from LC Mertz. The property and trailers are apparently owned and /or operated by Vishnu Gor of LC Mertz located at 6147 W. 65th Street in Bedford Park/Cook County. The parking lot contained numerous trailers containing unknown chemicals. One trailer was observed to be leaking unknown chemicals onto the ground. This screening activity was performed at the request of USEPA Region 5 personnel.

The following trailers and or containers were screened for pH only:

Trailer designated "T1" was observed to be leaking unknown chemicals onto the ground. Three containers were screened.

- 350-gallon plastic tote had pH of 8 units.
- 55-gallon steel container, yellow viscous material, pH of 14 units. (Note: Located on leaking side of trailer).
- Blue 55-gallon plastic container, clear liquid, pH of 14 units. (Note: Located on leaking side of trailer).

Trailer designated T2. Observed to be full of 350-gallon plastic totes. Some of the totes were observed to have inventory/sampling markings placed with an orange wax marker by Gino Bruni of the IEPA or myself from the October 22, 2003, sampling inspection at LC Mertz. Screening could not be performed due to the enormous quantity and inaccessibility of the containers.

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Trailer designated T3. Observed to be full of 350-gallon plastic totes and 55-gallon containers. Screening could not be performed due to the enormous quantity and inaccessibility of the containers.

Trailer designated T4. Three containers were screened:

- 55-gallon green steel container had a pH of 5 units.
- 55-gallon blue steel container had a pH of 9 units.
- 55-gallon blue steel container had a pH of 12 units.

The majority of the trailers were either locked or so full of containers that screening was not possible or recommended from a safety standpoint.

CC: Des Plaines Office
USEPA Region 5, Steve Faryan